

Strengthening International Cooperation: United States Partnerships to Counter Global Chemical Weapons Threats

The United States continues to bolster its efforts to address global chemical weapons (CW) threats through a variety of policies and international programs and partnerships.

To advance these cooperative efforts, the United States is collaborating closely with international partners to prevent, detect, and counter CW threats worldwide and to counter the threat posed by non-state actor and terrorist groups acquiring, trafficking, and using CW and related materials, equipment, and expertise. Last year alone, the United States provided over \$97 million in capacity building support and engaged nearly 100 Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) Member States through critical partnerships that involved:

- Promoting and supporting the implementation of the CWC and UN Security Council Resolution 1540.
- Providing extensive political, financial, and technical support to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), UN Office on Drugs and Crime, UN Office of Counterterrorism, INTERPOL, and other multilateral institutions and arrangements to strengthen norms and promote enhanced and effective implementation of activities that advance chemical security globally.
- Strengthening border security capabilities with partner countries to improve management and tracking of chemical imports and exports.
- Implementing capacity-building training that strengthened partners' implementation of inventory management, stockpile neutralization best practices, and due diligence and security risk assessment capacity throughout the chemical supply chain to prevent the diversion of chemical weapon precursors.

- Building partners' capacity on CW detection, response, investigative, and prosecutorial preparedness and conducting workshops to address related topics, such as WMD crime scene management, countering low-tech chemical and biological toxin threats, cyber-enabled investigations, behavioral-based threat assessments, and developing strategic messaging plans to counter disinformation.
- Holding subject matter expert exchanges and dialogues to review, share, and assist partners to incorporate international chemical security best practices into their legal and regulatory frameworks.
- Leveraging extensive U.S. support for the Global Congress on Chemical Security and Emerging Threats and the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction's Chemical Security Working Group to address global chemical security threats and support critical roles of the OPCW and INTERPOL in these efforts.
- Promote the peaceful uses of chemicals for a range of beneficial medical, industrial, and agricultural applications, while also participating actively in multilateral activities to prevent the diversion of dual-use material, equipment, and technology for illicit CW efforts.
- Supporting the International Partnership against Impunity for the Use of CW and its important efforts to reinforce global norms against CW use and hold those who use CW accountable.

The United States will continue to harness the full strength of its diplomacy, partnerships, and programs to address the evolving CW threat landscape and pursue a world free of CW.